

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Latvia

**Post:** Warsaw

### Agricultural Census 2010 in Latvia

**Report Categories:**

Agricultural Situation

**Approved By:**

Michael Henney

**Prepared By:**

Agata Kingsbury

**Report Highlights:**

Central Statistical Bureau (CSB) of Latvia released preliminary information on Agricultural Census 2010. In May 2011, more preliminary data will be published on the 86.4 thousand farms operating in Latvia on 1.6 million hectares. Final data will be released by year's end and will be used for analysis of the country's agricultural situation, and for further planning of EU Common Agricultural Policy implementation in Latvia.

**General Information:**

The Latvian Central Statistical Bureau (CSB) completed the Agricultural Census and Survey on agricultural production methods as required by the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 1166/2008. Between April –December 2010, the bureau gathered information from 86.4 thousand (96 percent) of 90 thousand farms surveyed. Preliminary data reveal farms are: operating on 1.6 million hectares (Ha) of agricultural land, averaging 15 percent larger in size, cultivating on 10 percent less arable land area, and 2.8 thousand (3 percent) fewer in number involved in production agriculture than recorded in the last survey conducted prior to EU accession. Census information could not be gathered on 2.6 thousand farms (4 percent) for various reasons - property occupant could not be found/met or refused consent for an interview, etc.

In May 2011, more preliminary data will be released with final results of the Agricultural Census published by the end of 2011. The CSB will use the survey results for analysis of the situation in Latvia, and for further planning and implementing the European Union Common Agricultural Policy's direct payment scheme in Latvia.

The survey gathered information on: Latvian land use, number of agricultural animals, organic farming systems, agricultural structures and technical machinery and equipment used in farms, employed in agriculture, economic activities, as well as on soil treatment methods used, soil fertility preservation activities, animal housing and manure storage facilities, and on irrigation methods used in farm.